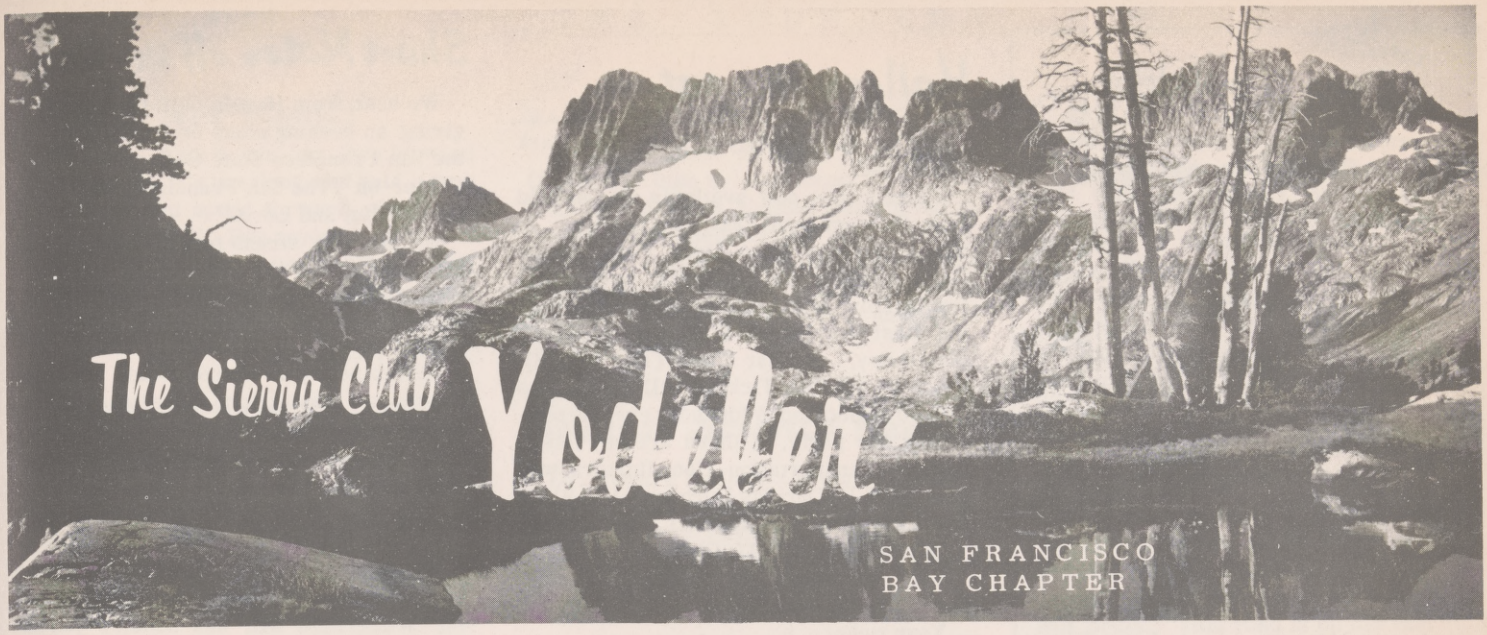

Volume XXI | October 5, 1959 | Number 14

Report on Pt. Reyes

The National Park Service has about completed a survey of the possible National Seashore Area around Point Reyes and on Inverness Ridge. Some of the findings were presented to 200 people at a meeting of the Point Reyes Foundation at the College of Marin on September 30th. A group of Park Service experts described the special geological and biological values of the peninsula which make it such a worthwhile project. Slides showed the variety of scenery—from wild waves to deep woods. Preservation of the deep woods was much discussed at the meeting and we heard that little could be done to stop the cutting of Douglas Fir under the present contracts except, possibly, buying the rights from the lumber company or working to make an exchange to other areas. About forty percent of the long ridge of fir is to be logged. The forest will return, but not in our lifetime. The tax practices in the State, which treat standing timber as property of high value, are much to blame for forcing owners to cut the trees.

The meeting heard from Congressman Miller, who was instrumental in obtaining money for the Park Service survey, (and who seemed rather surprised at his success). He described the long road the project must travel before final realization. Congress, he said, is not easily convinced of the need for such appropriations, there is some jealousy of the West, with its demand for Parks and its apparently hugh empty spaces. Congress needs information and education. Films, slides and written articles are the weapons to fight ignorance and apathy, in Congress, and with the general public.

The film which will do this is the special project of the Sierra Club. By the time

(continued on page 2)

NSS MEETINGS (Note): These are changes in meeting places from those shown in the schedule.

Oct. 16 — Women's City Club at 465 Post St., San Francisco, near Mason St., meet in lobby at 6:00 p.m. if planning to join the group for dinner. Program will be Dr. Rostlund speaking on "Foods of California Indians".

Nov. 20 — Program will be at the Rotary Natural Science Center at Lake Merritt. Take "B" bus to Lake Merritt and walk one block south and turn right.

East Bay Dinner October 21st

YOU ARE INVITED TO CRUISE THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Sicily, Greece and the Aegean Islands will be featured in the color slide tour of the eastern Mediterranean to be presented by Dorothy Wilkinson at the East Bay Dinner meeting on October 21. This is a region that most tourists miss, and offers a refreshing new slant on travel opportunities beyond the Atlantic.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of Willard Junior High School, Telegraph Avenue and Ward Street, Berkeley. Doors are open at 5:30; come early for conversation. For reservations phone Donna Harvey, THornwall 3-6238, before 10:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19. For those who cannot be there for dinner, the program will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Alice Abeel

Ghastly Gaiety for Halloween Weekend

Ghosts will hover and spirits will waft on Hallowe'en night at Armstrong Redwoods State Park.

This is the annual weekend with Garfield Folk Dancers, October 31 and November 1. After a 5 o'clock steak dinner at the barbecue area there will be a folk dance party in the recreation hall. Garfield will supply the music and the dance program. If Dan Lee's committee of ghouls haven't frightened you stiff with their decor, you may be able to pull yourself together and dance. Edna Spaulding will lead some simple dances for those who don't consider themselves folk-dancers so don't hold back. There will be plenty of more advanced dances for ye old-timers, too.

For Sunday, a variety of activities are planned. Lou Henrich will lead a driftwood scavenging party on a nearby ocean beach, with a weiner-roast or what-have-you (bring some). Doug Peterson, with help from the Redwood Chapter, will lead the hike, starting out by car caravan to the take-off point. For those who never got enough dancing, Phil Lydon will teach kolos again this year in the recreation hall. Randy Dickey has arranged for a visit to one of the small wineries in the area.

To get there, drive north on 101, take the Cotati turn-off (right, then left under cloverleaf), follow signs to Guerneville and go through town to signs for Armstrong Redwoods State Park. The drive takes about 2 hours.

If you are not now a folk-dancer, you could prepare for this event by attending the Garfield beginners' class on Monday

(continued on page 2)

Sierra Club Yodeler

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NEXT DEADLINE: Oct. 19

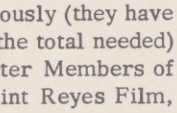
VOLUME XXI NO. 14 Oct. 5, 1959

Pt.Reyes cont.

subscribers read this report a letter to every member of the Sierra Club from President Nathan Clark will be in the mail. It asks each one to take part in completing this film. Yodeler readers who have already helped us so generously (they have raised nearly one half of the total needed) can be proud to be Charter Members of the Supporters of the Point Reyes Film, and they can pass the appeal on to a friend.

C.M.C.

River Touring SECTION



The second Slalom race of the season was held on the Feather River at China Wall on September 13th. This is a fine spot to hold such an event for interested families and friends can view the race from shore and have a fine camping spot at the same time. The winners again were Elsa Bailey and Bryce Whitmore with scores similar to those of the last slalom.

Last Sunday a large group turned out to try their luck at surfing. This has proven to be a popular one day trip for again friends and family can join in the fun. Thanks to Helen Berman for getting folks to sign up. Charlie Brown, of course, was in his glory with so many human and canine friends with whom to visit and play.

Don't forget our next meeting night on October 13th, Tuesday, at 8 :00 o'clock.

E.M. Ridge

Halloween cont.

evenings at Berkeley's Live Oak Park Clubhouse.

Tickets are now available at Garfield Folk Dancers and East Bay Dinners: in San Francisco from Doug Peterson or Gayle Lindlow (MO 4-2804); on the Peninsula from Viola Larson (DI 2-1332); in the East Bay from Walt Ochse, Harry Waterbury, or Pat Cone (TH 8-7458). Price is $2.10. Tickets will be sold up to 7:00 o'clock on Wednesday evening preceding the party, if there are any left to sell. Transportation Coordinators will be - for S.F. Dorothy Durham, MI7-9195; for East Bay Lou Henrich, TH 1-4096.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING—

Your tableware for Saturday dinner—plate, cup or cups, silver.

Your ticket.

Your breakfast and lunch for Sunday.

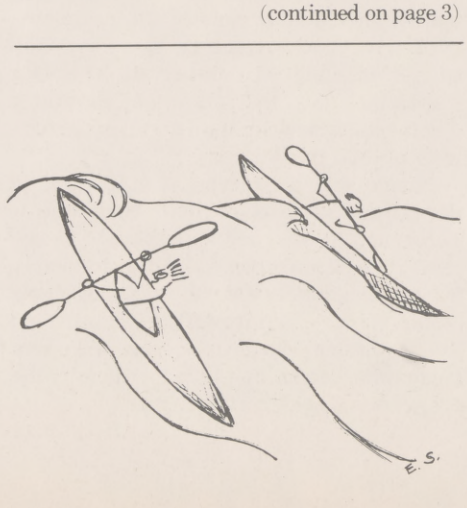
A full skirt, girls!

More Rivers to Cross

The river section, represented by at least a dozen kayaks, tried Indian Summer at Bolinas, September 27. There we picnicked and rode the waves like surf boards. A river with waves like that would strike fear into the heart of any river rat, but with the whole ocean to maneuver in it's just wonderful practice in boat control. All a broken wave can do is turn you end over end or roll you over and sweep you along until it deposits you on the beach.

And what a thrill when you succeed in your efforts, and race along, seeing the wave break into a foaming mass just aft of your cockpit, or turn neatly out of the wave and ride sideways back up and over free of it just as it is steepening to the vertical and is about to cup over and fall on itself. Even complete novices tried it — they got fewer successful rides and more rollings than those who'd practiced, but what fun! Here's a secret to remember: The wave must be so steep it scares you, to be steep enough for a

(continued on page 3)



Short Notes off the Cuff

We hear from Harold Gilliam that he is giving an evening class on Wednesdays at the San Francisco State College Downtown Center on "The San Francisco Bay Area: Land, Life, and Lore."

He plans to stress natural science and conservation in the Bay Area, which includes most of the Sierra. It's in the bay's watershed. Sierra Club films and slides will be included.

A brand new youngster has entered the ranks of the Sierra Club - her proud parents - Arthur & Virginia Benson - name - Gail Valerie, statistics - born Sept. 4 - weight 6 lb. 2 oz. Congratulations!

We stand corrected! The Senator whose illness caused postponement of action on the Wilderness Bill was Senator Joseph O'Mahoney, not Senator Magnuson, as reported in the Conservation article in the last Yodeler.

Mrs. H. L. Bethel of Palo Alto drops us a note stating that her store on the Peninsula "Peninsula Scientific" features U.S.G.S. topographical maps, county maps, and Forest Service maps, prospecting and mineralogy supplies such as picks, gold pans, hand lenses, ultra violet lights and mineral testing equipment. Also telescopes, binoculars, compasses, microscopes and related items which might be of interest to members who combine hobbies with their trips.

On June 19th, the NSS heard Dr. Pearson of U.C.'s Museum of Vertebrate Zoology tell about his favorite mammals, the rats and mice of the Bay Area.

Unlike the student of ornithology, the mammalogist cannot settle under his favorite tree with note book and pencil and expect to record anything of value. Mostly he depends on traps, live or snap, to try to answer such questions as: How many individuals, of what species, live in a given area, how far does an individual mouse range, how long does he live, etc. But with a snaptrap a mouse can be observed only once; even a live trap badly upsets his social life. This led to the development of the Pearson All Weather 24 hour Automatic Mouse Watcher, consisting of a movie camera, strobe light arrangement set on one side of a suitable mouse runway, directly across from an instrument box with clock, thermometer, barometer, etc. Mouse going along runway steps on treadle, snaps his picture, recording time, temperature, etc. in the process.

Dr. Pearson obtained over 8,000 such records from Microtus runways in the last two years, of songsparrows, towhees, salamanders, a snake or two, and the neighbor's Siamese, in addition to the meadow and harvest mice who triggered the great majority of records. —Virginia Havens

More Rivers (Cont.)

good ride. And if you can dive forward off it just as it's breaking and hold a true course as you speed forward, that's the best thrill of all. But anyone with no experience at all can get another thrill—that of paddling out through the surf line, going up over a wave that's sweeping toward you and about to break. Your boat tilts up steeper and steeper, hangs on the crest, or if the water is cupping over, cuts through that thin wall on top then tilts forward and seaward and with a crash you come down on the other side of the wave.

Even more people should come surfing. It's fun, it's close, it's instructive.

We'll have our regular meeting at the Lake Merritt Canoe House at 8:00, Tuesday, October 13. This is a particularly important meeting: we'll choose a chairman to guide our destiny for the coming year. The slate includes John Bombay, Elaine Simpson, Bob Hawley and Carl Trost. Also we'll plan next spring's schedule, so bring ideas of trips you want. We'll have some pictures and discussion of last summer's fun, too. - Glen Gaumer

1960 Winter Olympics Benefit

For a fascinating social evening plan to attend the Bay Area Ski Federation's Snow Queen Ball, with music by Del Courtney and his Orchestra, with all proceeds going to aid the U.S. Winter Olympic Team. The date—Friday, November 13 - the place - Mark Hopkins Hotel - the price - $2.50 per person. Tickets at all local sports shops and the Bay Area Ski Federation.

Among the anecdotes of summer past is the tale of the lost pack. Al Whitney, of Redwood Chapter, left his pack at trailside on a ridge in Trinity Alps while he sidetracked a few yards to get a drink of water from below a snowpatch. This was well after dusk. Then try as he did he couldn't find his pack again, trail, flashlight and otherwise. So at camp he borrowed extra clothing, a sleeping bag liner, and some assorted tarps and with these got along reasonably well through the night. At dawn he set off to hunt for his lost gear, but had no trouble at all. As he approached the general area where he had placed the pack he was drawn direct to the spot by the ringing of his alarm clock from within the knapsack, as if to say "Daddy, come and get me!" Al says this was the only time during the entire week that the darned thing worked. Next year he may go out with no sleeping gear at all; he said he slept fine. So if you run into a frozen looking character in the mountains in 1960, who tries to bum old clothes or unused ground sheets from you, then meet good old Al. —Jim Watters

MARIAN'S MOVED — DONT PHONE YET!

Memo to those planning to attend the October 17 hike to Lake Anza:

Leader Marian Vranna has moved to Oakland and does not yet have a phone. Instead of calling either leader for information on this hike, please telephone Mildred Hilkey, whose correct number is in the Schedule. —A.R.

Natural Science Meeting

Dr. Edward S. Ross, Curator of Entomology at California Academy of Sciences, presented a program of "Insects of the Bay Area" at the Natural Science Meeting in June.

Slides of the insects of the inter-tidal zone along the shore and of the sand dunes were shown with the beetles, flies and wasps making up most of the insect population. There was an interesting sequence of pictures showing the life histories and habits of the wasps and their interrelation with other insects. One unforgettable picture showed the openings of a scattered group of wasp tunnels, each filled with a little wasp face waiting for the sun to warm the surroundings so they could get to work.

Dr. Ross called attention to two facts: one, that the habits of these wasps were much the same throughout the world, differing only in minute detail; and two, that sand dunes and other areas seemingly worthless are valuable for the scientific study of insects and other forms of natural life existing there. Some of these areas are unique, and once destroyed can never be replaced.

For those who could stay, and that included practically everyone, Dr. Ross gave a special treat by showing slides of insects, plants, and animal life taken on his recent trip to Africa.

—Frances Payne

OLD TOWN CANOE FOR SALE

18' Grade A Oldtown Canoe with Sponsons, unsinkable and difficult to tip. 43" beam, 12-1/2" deep, special color design. Fitted with mast seat, rudder, lee boards, 55 sq. yd. Lateen sail, 2 carrying yokes, double width slat back rest, 1 folding mahogany-cane chair, half ribs installed for extra strength, bang plate full length of keel, painter ring, outboard motor bracket, 3 copper tipped maple paddles, car top carrying equipment. An ideal combination for paddling, sailing or motor boating on mountain lakes and the more placid streams. Rugged enough to handle Glen Canyon trip on the Colorado River. This outfit used only 3 times, is in top condition, and represents a $500 retail value new. For a quick cash sale will sacrifice for $250. Call H. D. PACE, Jr., 670-53rd Street, Oakland, OLympic 3-9069.

Conservation: — Round-up of Western News

Congratulations to Audrey Austin and members of the Mother Lode Chapter on an excellent exhibit at the State Fair. Thousands of visitors saw "Wilderness Alps of Stehekin" and "Two Yosemites", a Clean Camp exhibit and other Sierra Club material. A specially good idea of the chapter was to bring in its new members to staff the exhibit booth, first giving them an orientation course in Sierra Club ways and policies.

Bids for nine miles of logging road toward Beach Meadows from Kennedy Meadows on the Kern plateau have been received. We do not know when the work will begin. This road is on the east side of the river. The Forest Service says it has no intention of crossing the Kern at present.

Management of the state forests in California was discussed by the club conservation committee. These areas are administered by the State Division of Forestry, which is considering setting up a policy on grazing.

The needs of recreation should be presented to the forest commissioners, some of whom are known to be interested in recreation and watershed management. There is important recreation potential in the state forests. One, near Springville, has a stand of Sequoia gigantea, and another, Los Posadas, has Douglas fir from a former Christmas tree farm. We should explore and list these special areas and urge their use for recreation.

In the Salmon Trinity Alps the Trinity River dam will create an enormous lake which will reach long fingers toward the primitive area. Access by water is easy and pressure for homes, resorts, etc., will increase. There will certainly be a road along the boundary of the primitive area.

Maintenance of a wilderness area here is especially difficult, due to the checkerboard pattern of private ownership, in sections alternating with national forest lands. Exchanges of timbered land to build a solid core of publicly owned wilderness should be encouraged.

The chapter conservation committee was disturbed to hear reports of sales of land and prospective development on the north and east slopes of Mt. Diablo. If it is true, as reported, that North Peak has been bought by Stockton interests for a TV station, one of the most important additions urged for the state park has been lost.

The survey of additions proposed for Tamalpais State Park is finished and appraisal is under way. We can do little but wait patiently while the project grinds

(continued on page 4)

Conservation (Cont.)

its way through the assembly line of State departments which must approve it.

The new Chief of the Division of Beaches and Parks, Mr. Charles De Turk, when speaking at the F.W.O.C. Convention, showed he is quite aware of the need for streamlining this cumbersome procedure. He hopes that the Department of Finance and other agencies will soon be able to examine the projects during, not after, the investigation carried on by the Division of Beaches and Parks.

Mr. De Turk has a way of expressing facts in pictorial words. Imagine, said he, a map of California three feet high. The total area in state parks would be about the size of a postage stamp. Yet ranchers complain that land is tied up in parks. As for beaches, California has only about 1000 miles of coastline, which allows every person now living in the state just three inches each.

Which reminds us that yesterday we saw the golden sands of Drakes Bay lying empty under the warm sun. Remember the Point Reyes National Seashore project. Help the film fund now. —CMC

Teenagers Moutain Weekend

Spread the word to all members 14 to 18 years old — Phil Faulconer will lead the Sierra Club young people to Bradley Ski Hut Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18 for a cleanup party. In addition to the pleasant two-mile walk up from Squaw Valley there will be plenty of work to do in preparation for the coming winter. Fire wood is needed, the hut must be cleaned from top to bottom, and Ned Robinson will welcome assistance in erecting signs along the trails leading to the hut. There will be work and fun for everyone, from the littlest girl to the huskiest fellow.

Saturday and Sunday suppers and Sunday breakfast will be provided, but bring your own lunch for both days, plus cup and spoon. Old clothes and comfortable boots are in order, with sweaters, etc. for the nippy autumn weather. Bring flashlight, sleeping bag and air mattress, toothbrush, and towel, etc., and a rucksack or packboard.

The group will leave the SP station at the foot of University Avenue, Berkeley, at 7:30 a.m. Saturday. If you can go, please call Phil Faulconer, TH 5-6840, or Stephanie Borland, TH 3-8428. Transportation will be in individual cars. Additional cars and drivers are needed.-Philip Faulconer

PICTURES WANTED

Want to help brighten up the "Yodeler"? Send in some of those snapshots taken on Sierra Club outings - we'll reproduce the best of them in the paper - then return them to you posthaste!

Black Mountain SEPT. 20

A good-natured group of 22 Sierrans met at Mr. Frank Duveneck's Hidden Villa Ranch for a hike up Black Mountain. The weather was with us. Not too warm. We all made the steep 2,340 foot climb under the able guidance of George Baldwin and Ken McCready. The beautiful views made it all worthwhile.

It was wonderful greeting old friends such as Joe Ferry, Dick Monges and others and acquiring new ones. But the high spot was the presence of Elsa Bailey, who having escaped the lure of the Watersprites, joined us for a day of hiking. We urged Elsa to do this more often but methinks we espied a faraway look in her eyes. Alas, those river tours are too tempting, eh, Elsa?

Ten-year-old Bryant Gay captured a (ugh) huge tarantula, proving once again that boys will be boys (and fearless at that!) Would like to be around when Bryant gives his teacher this new-found pet.

Mr. Duveneck, our host, was not present but a most gracious substitute was on hand to take complete charge. Everyone will have cause to remember Doc. This wonderful Golden Retriever charmed us out of our much needed water supply and lunches—stealing our hearts in the bargain. He dutifully led us up to the Summit and back without losing a single hiker! But he proved one thing I have always wondered about. Dogs DO get "dog tired". He laid down in the middle of the road for a well-deserved nap at the end of the day. Couldn't coax one little tail-wag from him.

Your scribe will fondly remember this day. For instance the young couple who, upon discovering their lunch had been left in the car, never complained once. When last seen, they were happily munching abalone sandwiches as they drove away. The mocking bird songs on the ridge, Doc lavishing his attention on one and all—playing no favorites, the black ground beetle and the crazy, mixed-up black ants; all these added to a grand day.

George, let's make this hike an annual event. And, please, George, ask Doc to join us. —Pat Brakefield

Chapter Day - Tilden Park

The lawn outside the Brazilian Clubhouse in Tilden Park served as assembly room Sunday afternoon, October 4, when Bay Area members gathered for the annual Chapter Day.

Lou Elliott, presiding in the absence of chairman Ned Robinson, introduced the executive committee candidates who were present, then gave the grassy floor to committee chairmen for reports of Bay Chapter activities. Much interest was shown in the safety program being stressed by the knapsacking, hiking and rock-climbing sections. The entertainment committee urged everyone to mark calendars now for the October 31 Halloween Party and the December 12 Christmas Party.

The meeting adjourned to the Brazilian Room terrace, where Pat Cone was presiding over the "Grape Wreath" and "Golden Halo" punchbowls. While people were enjoying themselves around the punchbowls, Jean Baxter was busily decorating the tables, getting ready for the delicious ham dinner which Dorothy Durham and her crew of Dick Epstein, Donna Harvey, Jack Davis, Patty Prender, Virginia Mini, Estelle Berkheimer and Betty McCracken had prepared.

A lot of thanks and praise went to Dorothy for this wonderful dinner. Ernst Stoltz made the placard that informed the lucky Sierra Clubbers to help themselves to samples of goodies that Dorothy was displaying.

After everyone had seconds of the delicious fruit salad and had disposed of the evidence of how much ice cream they had eaten, the room was quickly converted and Edna Spalding and Al Hartzel took over for the dancing. Anita Suran, who has gained expert dishwashing experience at Clair Tappaan Lodge, and scores of others finished the dishes in record time to get in on the first dance. Elsa Bailey took care of the thirsty dancers with a refreshing punch.

To those of you who weren't there—you missed a bargain day. Don't let it happen again! —Georgella Perry

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE: Ski rack and Tire Chains, for VW - Excellent condition. $15.00. MO 4-9038 after 6:00 P.M.

DRAFTED: Must sell 1957 Porsche, 1600 Super Speedster. $2550. Has gone 34,000 miles. Engine and tires excellent. Call Cece N. Walrond, TH 5-4461, after 6:00 P.M.

the Lazy Knapsackers

After my trip this summer, I want to propose a new Sierra Club Section. It is to be called "The Lazy Knapsackers."

Up till now, I've always associated with rock climbers. Their happy cries of, "On the rocks by six!" would rouse me from a warm bed in pitch dark to tackle some peak. To get to the base of the climb, we'd carry tremendous packs of 65 to 80 pounds over terrain that still haunts me four years later. (I suspect my last two children were a desperate excuse for staying home from such goings on).

This summer, having decided I wasn't in condition to accompany the Waddington trip, I invited myself along on a trip my brother-in-law and a friend were taking. I offered my company timidly and was accepted so graciously and enthusiastically that my morale was greatly lifted.

I was told the men would do the work—one the cooking and one the washing—and I was along to entertain around the campfire. This seemed easy enough and brushing up on my jokes and songs I gaily set off. What I didn't realize was that my companions were out for pure pleasure and nothing stood in the way.

Our procedure was very simple. We never walked more than four hours a day, including rest stops and lunch. We never went to bed before midnight and no one dared lift his head from his sack before 10:00 A.M.

Some days we walked for only 2 1/2 hours. Once, after an hour's walk we came to a lovely spot and almost stayed but that seemed like too much even for us and on we went!

Our approach over the passes was simple. We, or at least I, and one of the men to keep me company, would literally walk 100 steps and then sit and admire the view. I can describe in detail every tree, rock and bush, facing the passes I crossed!

In the Sierras a few miles opens a completely different vista. Your view can change just as much in one mile as in ten.

Meals were leisurely, we spent lots of time just sitting, in meditation and admiration. On occasion, we'd invite guests to join our campfires.

My husband doesn't know it, but he's lost a traveling companion. No more 10 hours of hiking, no more fighting the brush, no more rushing here and there. The mountains will be there, and I suspect if I take it easy, I'll be here longer too.

Anyone interested in a trip like ours is welcome to join the new section. Arrangements are being made for a special pin showing a hiker, sitting down, admiring the view. After three trips like ours, you qualify for a super-pin showing a hiker in his sleeping bag!

For further details contact your local chapter. —Demetra C. Wilson

Natural Science Section Birthday Party

Almost twice the usual number of guests assembled for the Natural Science Section twentieth birthday dinner at Temescal Clubhouse on Sept. 26 and the dinner committee was well rewarded for venturing beyond the customary price level. The attraction of course was the special "Indian Night" entertainment, complete with traditional curry and rice dishes, followed by the program titled "An American in India", with Kodachrome slides by Rudi and Lois Fink, depicting their trip to that country. A display of Indian saris were worn by Section Chairman Joanne Taylor and the hostesses and others were exhibited around the room.

All living past NSS chairmen were present, including Dick Johnson, one of the founders, who came from Chico for the birthday party; Amy Heggie, who came from Sonoma for the affair; Rudi Fink, Malcolm Smith, Cicely Christy, Wilfred Ward, Neva Snell and Joanne Taylor.

Myra Browne was dinner chairman.

—Joanne Taylor

Cathedral Range Knapsack Trip

Unfortunately space prevents printing of the campfire song which truly summarizes the way the Cathedral Range Knapsackers ..." All went over the Mountain ...." The song was an evening entertainment offering by Loma Prietans Trudy Harrison and Mary Jane White ... with supervision from Clyde Wiborg. And its many verses tell how each trip member distinguished himself.

Twenty-seven beginning (well, more or less) knapsackers joined Paul Grunland and his able assistants Stuart Gunn, Betty Osborn, and Winifred Thomas for eight days of hill-and-dale hiking from Parsons Lodge to Upper Lyell Base Camp via Budd Lake, Nelson Lake, Mathis Lake, and Ireland Creek.

Chapter representation included 9 from Loma Prieta, 5 from the Angeles Chapter, 10 from the Bay Chapter, Arizona guests Rodney and John Ricker from Phoenix, and our Cascades visitor (with 39 pound pack!) Ruth Miller from Seattle.

The Cathedral Rangers now declare themselves seasoned knapsackers. Twice they cooked dinner midst the sprinkling of late afternoon Sierra rain. Daily they rose to the booming sound of Stu Gunn's reveille voice. They had ample rehearsal in camp cooking (taught by the able Winnie Thomas) and learned the techniques for backpacking kettles and dishpans. They developed a mild sort of "second class

continued on page 6

Trinity Alps — from Loge Seats

The Club's knapsack trip to Trinity Alps during the first week in August pointed at a somewhat different perspective of the fine country at the region's hub. We planned to get as high as possible on the ridges and stay there as long as we could along cross-country routes.

From Canyon Creek Lakes, our party of then eager adventurers shouldered full packs and tackled the so-called Middle Range which separates the Canyon Creek and Stuart Fork drainages. This climb was made up Stonehouse Gulch, beginning about an eighth of a mile below Lower Canyon Lake; and 3,000 feet and some four and one half hours later brought us to a point just north of Sawtooth Mountain adjacent to the snowfields at the head of Ell Lake cirque. Some members completed the climb to Sawtooth's North Peak for a magnificent surveyal of Trinity's most rugged features. Isolated Smith Lake, south of the mountain, offered such an attractive setting in its glacial bowl that we took a full day there, living the easy life as swimmers, fishermen, or as footloose wanderers, alternately. Next we swung north on the highest contours of the eastern slopes of the range, crossing talus jumbles above Bear Gulch, then passing over two pinnacled escarpments that form the walls of Devil's Canyon. Between them the spreading slopes seem to take on the appearance of a great stadium with Morris Meadows as the arena.

We dropped onto the extensive bench which runs well above the Stuart Fork, via a slim chute on the buttress ridge a short distance east of where the entire range veers westward to serve as a headwall to both Canyon and Mirror Lakes. Trinity excursionists of past Club trips need not be told what a superb area that bench is; it is two miles of near-level granite slopes with lingering snow under the ridgeblocks above, and oases of timber on the lower side, just before the big drop-off to Emerald and Sapphire Lakes. If there had been a few more daylight hours left, we might have reached Mirror Lake which was close at hand though well across a steep trough. Camp was made in garden country at cliff's edge. The following day was a test of the knapsackers spirit. We descended the canyon wall to the head of Emerald Lake while temperatures hovered in the nineties. A rope was used for safety reasons and some in the group were a mite nervous about all this. The belayer, however, was close to being scorched at his perch. From there on most of the route followed trails, but the seventy-odd switchbacks up 2,600 feet over Sawtooth Ridge into Caribou Basin were un-

continued on page 6

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SAN FRANCISCO, 4, CALIFORNIA

Car Camping - Sept 5-9

Jim Planakis invited me to plan a summer outing to the south shore of Lake Tahoe, to introduce Car Campers to the variety of recreation available there. Summering in this area, I have watched civilization creep in with all its advantages and vices. But I've also seen how simple it is to slip quickly into the back country. In and around the Desolation Valley Primitive Area are so many different lakes and peaks, each one a distinct individual. The alpine flower gardens, the hemlock forests, and the timberline trees are attainable to the hiker in an hour or so.

Enthusiastic Car Campers began arriving at Tahoe Mountain Organization Campground on the afternoon of Friday, September 4. Saturday morning a large crowd gathered, to drive and hike to Angora Lakes. We swam and sunbathed at the upper Angora Lake. We drank cold lemonade, served by Mrs. Hilldinger, proprietress of the Angora Lakes Resort. Clear sunny skies induced some of us to climb Echo Peak. From there the view extends north to Mt. Rose, and south to the mountains of Sonora Pass. Freel's Peak loomed temptingly to the east. (George Baldwin and Eleanor Knuth climbed there the next day.) Desolation Valley spread out before us to the west. After our descent there was still time for one more swim.

Sunday about 40 of us drove to Echo Lakes, took the delightful 3-mile boat ride to the upper end of the lakes, and from there found the climb to Desolation Valley most pleasant. Walter and Barbara Loebel (aged 4 and 6) joined in the hike and in the swimming at Desolation Valley. There was ample time to rest, and to enjoy this high glacial basin. Young Christine Schonewald found a friendly little aquatic garter snake to observe. Some hikers climbed to the edge of Rockbound Valley. The downhill return hike and boat trip awaiting us kept the outing from becoming too strenuous.

The beautiful weather held, persuading many of the campers to stay on through Monday afternoon. Some of us hiked up to Floating Island Lake. (Yes, the island really does float!) There we saw pink-tinged vine maples and yellow bitter cherry, signs of approaching fall. Others of us remained at Lake Tahoe, for another swim, or just one more chance to "help" Nevada with its tax collection at Stateline.

All but about six of the 112 Car Campers had never before explored the Tahoe back country. We are fortunate in having so much beautiful land preserved and guarded for our future enjoyment by the U.S. Forest Service. —Margaret Gwinn

Trinity Alps (Cont.)

forgettable. A few of us made camp late enough to be administered hot soup under the moon. To make amends, the group contrived another layover day at Upper Caribou, the swimmer's paradise.

On the final leg of the trip, after enjoying the meadows along the Stuart Fork we found that the marked trail going over the Middle Range near Alpine Lake, has all but ceased to exist for long stretches. There was more brush on trail than off.

This trip I think it fair to say, was well-enjoyed by everyone, both as to sociability and scenery. We saw the best in the varied country that the Trinity Alps offer. It is true, nevertheless, that all participants are a lot older now than when they started out.

—Jim Watters

Nominees for 1960

Following is a list of the nominees for the Bay Chapter Executive Committee for 1960. You will receive your ballots through the mail within a few days.

Wes Bunnelle	Margaret Gwinn
Thelma Carder	Frank Hibbard
Joanne Evers	Don Huber
Philip Faulconer	Claudia Owen
Glenn Gaumer	Ivan Tarnowsky
Bruce Grant	Carl Weisner
Paul Grunland	Lyn Wright

Ballot Counters Needed

Saturday, October 31st, is election day for the 1960 Bay Chapter Executive Committee. Volunteers are urgently needed to count ballots at the Sierra Club office.
If you can help, phone Walter Oppenheimer at OVerland 1-5536, to find out what time he wants to start the job.

Cathedral Range (Cont.)

technique" for climbing Cathedral Peak, an unknown mountain rising back of Mathis Lake, and the high point of the trip, Mount Lyell.

For 18 of the 31 of us, the climb up Mount Lyell was perhaps the feature of the trip. We started off bright and early (and cold!) shortly after six a.m. Following the trail to Donohue Pass for about one mile, we enjoyed the many lovely wild flowers on the way. Leaving the trail, we went cross-country (seasoned as we were by then) over cool granite slabs and some odd talus. We crossed the ice field and almost lost track of 13-year old Rodney, who conquered the slope like a mountain goat. A new use of the Sierra Club cup was discovered here: digging into the slippery ice with the cup offers terrific leverage. At long last came the rock climb up the mountain. Here Paul disappeared into space while Stu brought up the rear ....our trusty rope just hanging about his shoulders as a psychological prop to us all. And in line between the leaders, 16 brave mountaineers! We made it! Hurray! And what a view to end views from the top of that mountain! We could look out to Ritter, Davis, McClure, Rafferty, Vogelsang ... every bit of that panoramic Cathedral Range.

Getting down involved a new route toward the ice field, avoiding bergschrund, and some individualized scrambling and sliding over the sun cups.

Need companions for rugged mountaineering? Just call on us!

—Mariellis Forster & Jane Luckham

The Sierra Club